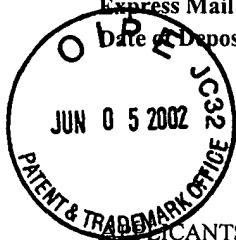


Express Mail Label No.: E55220204US

Date of Deposit: June 5, 2002

Attorney Docket No. 15966-577 (Cura-77)



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS: Shimkets *et al.*
SERIAL NUMBER: 09/662,783 EXAMINER: Dong Jiang
FILING DATE: September 12, 2000 ART UNIT: 1646
FOR: Growth Factor Polypeptides and Nucleic Acids Encoding Same

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

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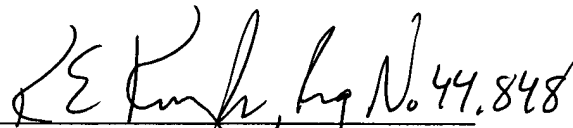
PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a), Applicants hereby petition for a three-month extension of time to respond to the December 5, 2001, Office Action in the above-identified application. With the extension, the Response is due on or before June 5, 2002. A check in the amount of \$920.00 in payment of the fee required by 37 C.F.R. §1.17(a)(1), is enclosed herewith.

No additional fees are believed to be due. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees that may be due, or credit any overpayment of same, to Deposit Account No. 50-0311 (Reference No. 15966-577 (Cura-77)).

Dated: June 5, 2002


Ivor R. Elrifi, Reg. No. 39,529
Naomi S. Biswas, Reg. No. 38,384
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